Response from Governor Ronnie Musgrove to Lt. Governor Amy Tuck's call for removal of the 5% provision:

"Today is a great day. It is a victory for the children and teachers of Mississippi. It is a victory for those students in college who will spend their lives influencing young people in the classroom, because this state is giving its assurance that it will pay them as professionals.

"It will be an even greater day when the Legislature has actually passed what it intends to do, and I thank the members of the Legislature who continually raised this issue to the leadership.

"I have always called for making education a priority, and specifically for increasing our teacher pay to the southeastern average. On the day I signed the pay raise legislation, I was excited about the work that had been done for our teachers. But, I also said on that day that I would work to remove the five percent revenue growth stipulation that was in the legislation."